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GENETIC PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION. An epitome of the published educational writings of President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University. By G. E. Partridge, Ph.D. New York: Sturgis & Walton.

The large quantity of Dr. Hall's writings makes a summary very desirable. This book is not an introduction but a condensation. It presents the views of an educational writer as does a chapter in a history of education. As such it is useful. The arrangement is convenient and logical. The four parts into which the book is divided are: the foundations of education, the principles of education, the school system, and special problems.

The author aims to give Hall's views without criticism or discussion of his own. It is an exposition of doctrine merely. He tries and, I believe, succeeds in bringing out the fundamental ideas which run through Hall's writings—the chief of which is the evolutionary explanation of all conscious processes.

Dr. Partridge retains many of the characteristic superlatives of President Hall, but the extravagance is toned down somewhat. It is more sane and sensible but less entertaining. The reader will miss the fun he is accustomed to have in reading Hall. It is the enthusiasm leading to extravagance, which gives much of the force in his writings. The brilliancy and novelty are lacking in the epitome. One feels as if he himself might have used such expressions, but when reading Hall he feels that he could not have said it in that way and would not if he could. If a student wishes to know what Hall thinks, and does not care for the inspiration, if he wishes thoughts and not emotions, doctrine and not the man, he can save time by reading this abridgment.

J. F. MESSENGER.

THOMAS RITCHIE: A STUDY IN VIRGINIA POLITICS. By Charles Henry Ambler, Ph.D. Richmond, Va.: J. P. Bell Company.

There have been social Virginians whose public careers extended over long periods, and were active in the shaping of affairs in Virginia. Sir William Berkeley, from 1640 to 1676 (with an interval under the Commonwealth); James Blair, commissary of the Bishop of London, president of the College of William and Mary, member of the council, from 1683 to 1743;

Patrick Henry, from 1765 almost to the time of his death in 1799; Thomas Ritchie, from 1807 for more than forty years. There has been no Virginian since Ritchie who filled for so long a time so important a place in the state.

Thomas Ritchie, the son of a Scotch merchant of large affairs, was born in Essex County, Virginia, in 1778, and died in Washington in 1854. On the maternal side Ritchie was connected with a number of Virginians of great influence in his day. In 1804 Mr. Jefferson, desirous of seeing a good administration newspaper published at Richmond, established through his friends the Richmond *Enquirer*, and Thomas Ritchie was placed in charge as editor. Ritchie was editor of the *Enquirer* (was the *Enquirer*) until 1845, when he removed to Washington to take over the administration organ there. He left the *Enquirer* in the hands of his sons.

This is the briefest statement of the public service of a man who for more than a generation was one of the chief sources and shapers of opinion in the South. And for nearly thirty years after 1820 Ritchie was one of the most quoted of editors in the United States. Professor Ambler, therefore, in choosing his subject has faced difficulties. These he has overcome in large measure by using diligently and with judgment the files of the *Enquirer* itself. The result of his work forms not only a contribution to the study of Virginia politics, but necessarily of national politics as well.

ALFRED J. MORRISON.

WEBSTER'S SECONDARY SCHOOL DICTIONARY. Abridged from Webster's New International Dictionary. 1,000 illustrations. New York, Cincinnati, Chicago: American Book Company. \$1.50.

As the title indicates, this is an abridgment of the *New International Dictionary*, which is designed for the use of pupils in secondary schools, but it will fill a long-felt want in our colleges for a reliable dictionary at a moderate price. The editors have succeeded in making their definitions unusually clear and concise, and in the case of varying pronunciation and spelling, have been careful to record alternatives. The illustrations are fresh and clear, the paper is good, the typographical work excellent,